

REMARKS

Claims 1-13 are pending in the application. Claims 1-13 stand rejected.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 7-13 have been amended to clarify the claimed invention. The clarifications include the features of:

collating an information element and subscriber data, and
extracting, from the subscriber data, network identification information that corresponds to the information element, said network identification information including source routing information and hop-by-hop routing information; and
selecting, based on a priority of said routing information of the network identification information, one of a source routing network and a hop-by-hop routing network.

35 U.S.C. § 112 Rejection

Claims 4, 8 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. In light of the clarifying amendments mentioned above, it is respectfully requested the rejection be withdrawn.

35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejection

Claims 1, 3-9, 11 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Chen (6,563,835B1) in view of Morgenstern et al. (6,587,467B1).

Applicant's independent claims 1, 7 and 11 are different from the combination of references for at least the following reasons:

As pointed out above claim 1 applicant claims network identification information including source routing information and hop-by-hop routing information; and selecting, based on a priority of said routing information of the network identification information, one of a source routing network and a hop-by-hop routing network.

Chen teaches a connection oriented switch with distributed signaling, which includes a

switching fabric, a switch control module and a plurality of network interface modules. A call processing function is distributed to each network interface module, with the exchanging topology information.

The routing determination function in Chen involves a path selection algorithm using the topology information in a database to determine an appropriate path through the network that can provide the requested service to the call.

Morgenstern discloses VP tunneling over public ATM VP switched networks utilizing Point-to-point connections.

The Office Action asserts that Chen selects between paths and having more than one path is the same as having at least two different routing methods. The Office Action also points to Morgenstern to show multiple networks in Fig. 2.

However applicant recites two different networks of hop-by-hop routing and source routing, as recited, whereas Chen only describes selecting paths in an ATM network and Morgenstern only describes private and public ATM private networks.

In addition applicant claims the selecting based on network identification information. The network identification information including source routing information and hop-by-hop routing information.

As pointed out in col. 8, lines 20-34 Morgenstern teaches implementing VC multicast utilizing VP tunneling over a public ATM switched networks and utilizes P2P and P2M connection to provide VC multicast capability to attached private ATM networks. There is no suggestion of network identification information including source routing information and hop-by-hop routing information.

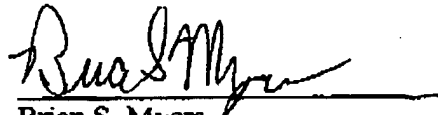
There is not suggestion in either reference that would indicate the unique combination

features of applicant's claimed invention. Therefore it is respectfully submitted that the rejection should be withdrawn because the combination of references, Chen and Morgenstern, do not suggest the claimed features.

However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, he is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged on Deposit Account 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,


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BSM: pm